

T-573

c. 1852

Keeler Gallery

St. Michaels

private

The Keeler Gallery occupies one of the oldest buildings standing in the central business district of St. Michaels. The two-story mid nineteenth-century frame house was evidently modified around 1900 with the rebuilding of the stair and the replacement of the Greek Revival mantels. Ther interior survives with a few period details such as the second floor newel post and a two-panel Greek Revival style door. The original exterior form of the house has been maintained with flush gable ends, a boxed cornice, and six-over-six sash windows.

Title work on this lot indicates the property was purchased by Samuel S. and Alexander Hambleton for \$50 in 1852 (64/233). Twenty-two years later the lot was partitioned and Alexander Hambleton retained the portion of the lot on which he dwelling stood. (79/486). After the turn of the century, the house and lot were sold to Barnet Beneman (135/395).

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. T-573

Magi No. 2105735411

DOE yes ☒ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Keeler Gallery

2. Location

street & number 207 Talbot Street

not for publication

city, town St. Michaels

vicinity of

congressional district First

state Maryland

county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert Vojvoda

street & number P.O. Box 608

telephone no.:

city, town St. Michaels

state and zip code MD 21663

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court

liber

street & number Talbot County Courthouse

folio

city, town Easton

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. T-573

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Keeler Gallery

The Keeler Gallery stands on the east side of Talbot Street in the center of the St. Michaels business district in Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, double-pile house faces west with the main gable oriented on a north/south axis.

Estimated to date to c. 1830-1850, the two-story, three-bay frame store is supported by a minimal brick foundation and covered with vinyl siding over weatherboards. The medium pitched roof has flush gable ends, a plain boxed cornice and a layer of asphalt shingles. Extending to the rear is two-story one-room plan kitchen wing.

The west (main) elevation is three bays across with the entrance located in the south bay. Adjacent six over six sash windows light the first and second floor. The side walls of the main block are simply finished, while the back wall is fully covered by the two-story rear wing. The rear corner of the house created by the service wing is filled with a two-story section covered with a shed roof.

The interior of the house has been remodeled on the first floor with a replacement brick mantels on the north wall of the front room and back rooms. The stair, rising in the back room, has a turn of the century square newel post, square balusters and a molded handrail. The early nineteenth-century handrail survives on the second floor with its turned newel post, rectangular balusters and circular-profile handrail. A Greek Revival style two-panel door opens into the back bedroom.

8. Significance

Survey No.

T-573

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates**Builder/Architect**check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/orApplicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ GLevel of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Keeler Gallery occupies one of the earliest buildings still standing in the central business district of St. Michaels. The two-story frame house was apparently modified around 1900 with the rebuilding of the stair and the replacement of the second quarter of the nineteenth-century mantels. The interior survives with a few period details such as the second floor newel post and a two-panel Greek Revival bedroom door. The exterior has retained its basic integrity with flush gable ends, a boxed cornice, and six over six sash windows.

Survey No. T-573

Quadrangle scale _____

[illegible]

KEELER GALLERY

Year: 1980 Vol: 550 Page: 467
From: Norman D Marshall & Gertrude B Marshall Price: \$45,000
To: Knapp Foundation, Inc.
Notes: See plat.

To Marshall by Elsie W Huntman, et al 1980, 550/464.

Year: 1980 Vol: 550 Page: 464
From: Elsie W Huntman and Frank E Mason, Jr.* Price:
To: Norman D Marshall & Gertrude D Marshall
Notes: See plat.

* Personal representative of the estate of Emily Stants and Elsie W Huntman.

Part conveyed by 1972, 467/543 and Will, 40/14.

Year: 1977 Vol: 40 Page: 14 (Will)
From: Emily Stants Price:
To: Elsie Huntman
Notes: Item 5. of Emily Stants' will leaves all of her property, real and personal to Elsie Huntman. Emily Stants was married first to Albert Fairbanks and then to Roger Riggold before she married Stants.

Year: 1945 Vol: 263 Page: 248
From: Emily L Ringgold and Roger R Ringgold Price: \$5
To: Norman D Marshall and Gertrude B Marshall
Notes: Begin at stake on Talbot St, 33'4" N of NW corner of former H Clay Dodson; run NE with corner of eaves of store house of Philip H Hope, binding on S side of a cherry tree 138'10" to west side of a 10 ft alley; with W side alley N 66'3" to stake; then W 39'6" to NE corner of former Jesse Marshall; with Marshall SW 26' then SW 95' to Talbot St; with Talbot St 27' to beginning - with use of the alley.

Conveyed to Albert L and Emily L Fairbank by Wm F and Addie Leonard, 1920 187/154. On death of Albert, property went to Emily - who married Roger R Ringgold.

KEELER GALLERY

PAGE TWO

Year: 1920 Vol: 187 Page: 154
From: William F Leonard and Addie A Leonard Price: \$5
To: Albert L Fairbank and Emily L Fairbank
Notes: Same description as 1945, 263/248.

Conveyed to Leonard by Clifton Hope and wife, 1917, 176/256.

Year: 1917 Vol: 176 Page: 256
From: Clifton & Elizabeth F Hope and Solomon & Maggie Caplan Price: \$1200
To: William F Leonard
Notes: Same description as 1945, 263/248

Part of the land conveyed to Hope by Barnet Beneman, 1913, 166/64 and
by T Hughlett Henry, trustee, 1915, 171/303.

Year: 1913 Vol: 166 Page: 64
From: Barnet Beneman Price: \$100
To: Clifton Hope and Solomon Caplan
Notes: Three parcels. No 1 is Hope Hardware; No 3 is on Fremont St. Lot 2
begins NW corner lot 1, runs N with Talbot St 28' to James B Watkins; NE with
Watkins and former Alexander Hambleton sold to W Pierce Blades, 145' to Susan
Thompson land leased to Perry Porter; S with Thompson 83' to land of late James
Benson; W with Benson 50' to H C Dodson; N with Dodson and lot 1 63'6" to NE
corner lot 1; W with 1 106' to beginning.

Conveyed to Beneman by E Spencer Hambleton, et al 1901, 135/395.

Lots 2 and 3 further confirmed by deed Samuel S Harrison to Beneman, 1901,
135/399.

Year: 1901 Vol: 135 Page: 395
From: E Spencer Hambleton et al Price: \$900
To: Barnet Beneman
Notes: Two lots. Lot 1 begins NW corner lot Beneman bought from Mary Harrison
(Hope Hardware, 1898, 129/95); runs N along Talbot St 28' to James B Watkins
etc. (Is lot 2 on 1913, 166/64).

Conveyed to Alexander Hambleton and Samuel S Harrison as tenants in
common, 1874, 79/486. East end of lot was conveyed to Alexander Hambleton by
Samuel H Wrightson, 1854, 66/64.

Lot No 2 is on Fremont Street.

KEELER GALLERY

PAGE THREE

Year: 1874 Vol: 79 Page: 486

From: Alexander Hambleton and Mary Price:

To: Hester and Frances Harrison, James F Burns and Mary Olivia (heirs of Samuel S Harrison)

Notes: A DEED OF PARTITION. Alexander Hambleton gets the land adjoining James B Watkins - upon which the dwelling house of Alexander Hambleton stands; fronting 28' on Talbot Street and 38' on E end, as now enclosed.

Hester and the others get the 32'4" on Talbot Street (Hope Hardware).

Year: 1852 Vol: 64 Page: 233

From: Samuel H Wrightson & wife Price: \$50

To: Samuel S Harrison and Alexander Hambleton

Notes: Begins at a stone near the main road, distant 89'3" from the beginning of lot 25, of which the within described is a part, N 67 E 77'7"; S 23 E 60'9" to Shadrach Watkins; with Watkins 100'; then NE 60'9" to beginning.

This is as far as I have been able to go with property sold by Samuel H Wrightson 1849-1856. At least one deed looks as though he sold the same land twice to different people. Thus far I have not found HOW he acquired the land in the first place. This property, Hope Hardware, the Mautz houses, and the IOOF all go back to Wrightson. It is all part of "Stopper" ("Joseph's Lot"), owned by Thomas Harrison, then to Joseph, then to Samuel or Edward. Wrightson married one of the daughters, and if he didn't get it from Samuel or Edward (I'm betting on Edward) he might have got it in a will. Will keep trying, but think the above is enough to date the house.

T-573

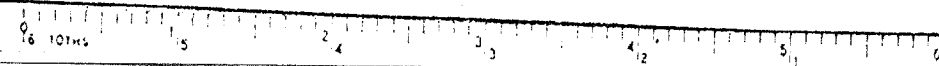
DR. DODSON'S
↓

T-573

METHODIST
CEMETERY

ST MARY'S
SQUARE

MAP
OF
ST. MICHAELS
TALBOT CO. MARYLAND
SCALE
JAN. 1, 1895. THOMAS F. BARD

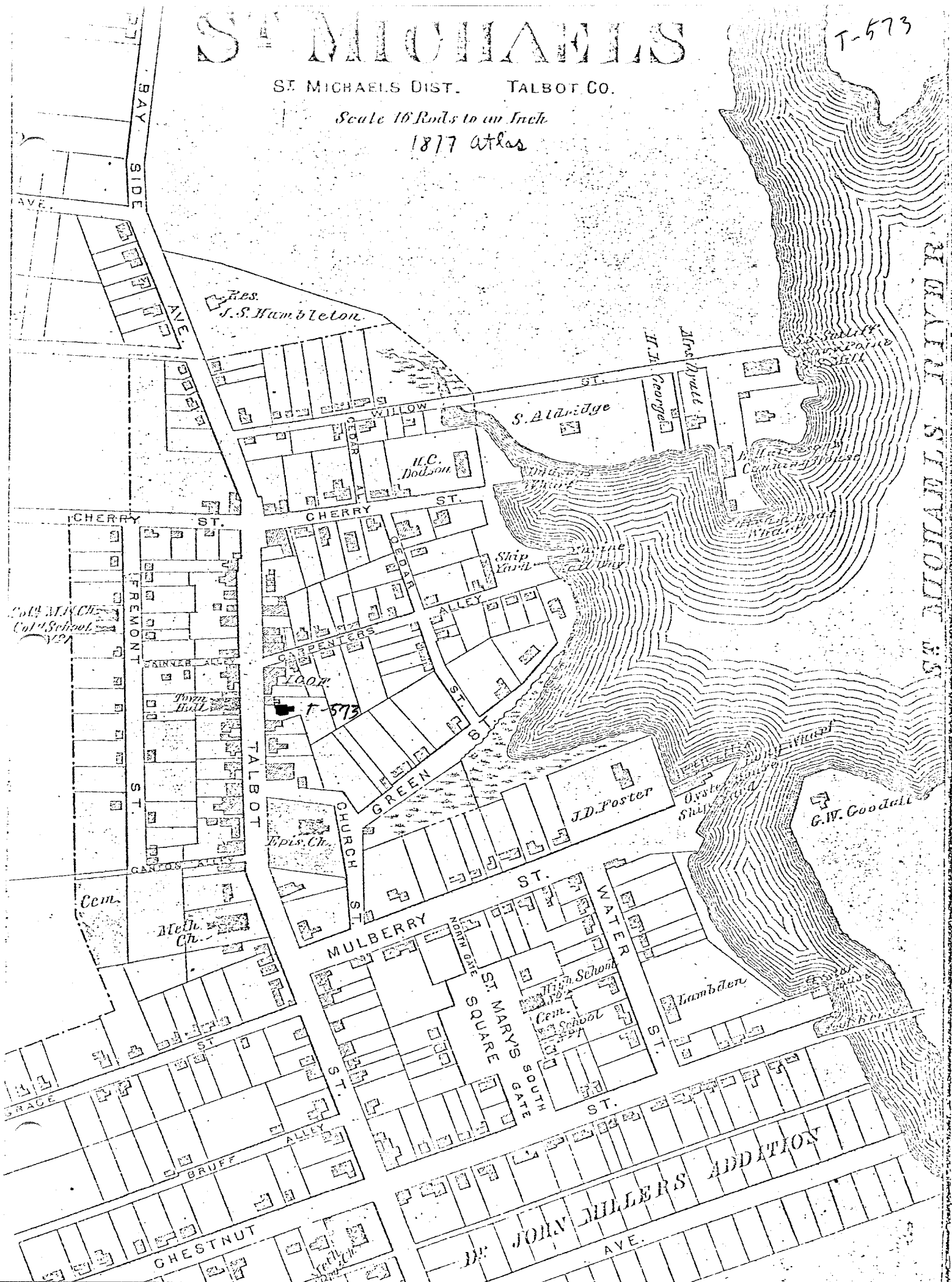


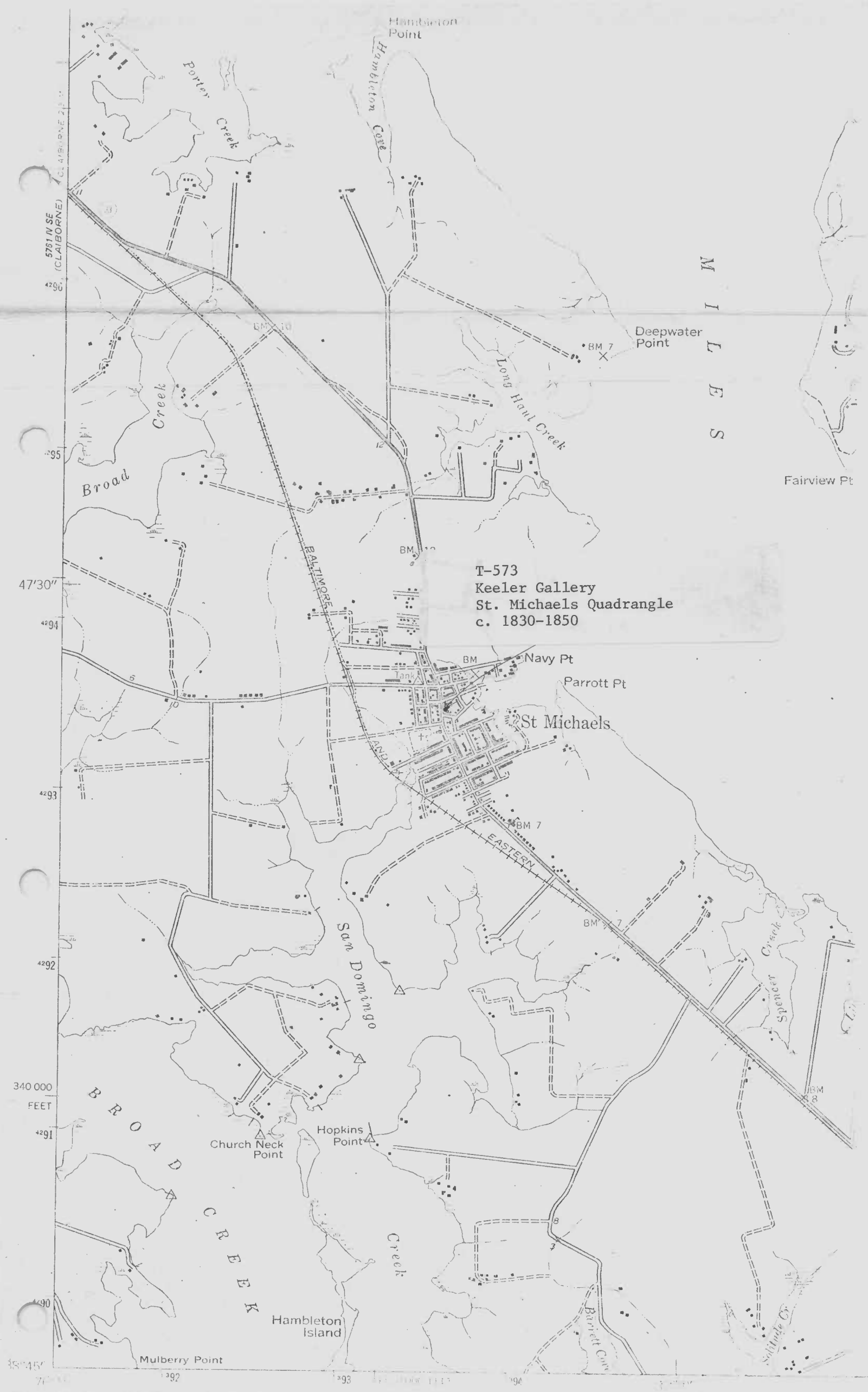
ST MICHAELS

ST MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.

Scale 16 Rods to an Inch
1877 Atlas

T-573





T-573
Keeler Gallery
St. Michaels Quadrangle
c. 1830-1850



KEELER GALLERY

T-573

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

west elevation

2/86 Paul Touart photographer

Negative/Maryland Historical Trust